

NOTES FROM THE FIELD.

DEAR EDITOR:—It has been a long time since I have written anything for your columns, but being afflicted at present so that I cannot attend church and Sunday school, thought to write for the benefit of those who are interested.

Our Sunday school is grandly increasing in size and interest. Our entertainment for the benefit and encouragement of the children on Christmas eve, passed off very pleasantly, and will long be remembered by many. May God ever bless and reward the dear little girls, comprising my Sunday school class, for their grateful remembrance of their unworthy teacher, is my prayer.

SARAH C. MOWL.

North Manchester, Ind.

I enclose 50 cents for the College debt in addition to the dollar already given. Hope every sister will do as much or more, as I very much dislike those lingering church obligations. If any of the ministering brethren pass this way I would be pleased to have them stop a few days with us. I think there could be a good church organized here soon. I live at Berthoud Larimee Co., Colo., on R. R., from Denver to Ft. Collins.

CATHARINE MAHAN.

DEAR EVANGELIST:—I am made to rejoice when I learn through your columns the good that is being done in the different sections, where the brethren are at work. And also the faith, zeal, and energy the brethren are manifesting in trying to bring sinners to Christ.

Many of us may feel our inability and unworthiness to perform this all important work of trying to bring sinners to Christ; but there are none of us but what can do something in getting poor wretched sinners to see their lost and ruined condition, and in getting them to forsake sin and join in with the people of God and follow Christ in that new and living way, which is set forth in the Scriptures. There is nothing in this life higher or nobler than laying up capital in heaven, and persuading poor sinners to do the same.

I am satisfied that a great work could be accomplished in this valley if we had more evangelical preaching. The field is too large for brother Shafer. He has been doing good work in some parts of the valley. Bro. J. K. Leedy, of Tom's Brook, Va., paid the brethren of Mt. Olive church a visit, and preached several splendid sermons; but no accessions to the church. He was called home on business, and could not continue the meeting as long as he desired.

We closed our Sunday school at Mountain Grove church on Christmas day. We had a good school; it is said, the best that ever was at this place. Our school was a union school. The different officers were of three or four denominations, but we worked together in harmony. Our superintendent, Mr. G. N. Earman, is a member of the Presbyterian church, and a good brother and a noble superintendent. I feel proud to say that he discharged his duties faithfully and energetically. The teachers all discharged their duties faithfully.

In as much as we had a good enrollment (about 70) and good attendance, we thought it our duty to compensate the members of school in some way besides the many good lessons they learned during the summer. And in order to do this we collected money enough in the neighborhood to buy each one a nice little present and arranged them on an evergreen tree with a name attached to each present. After reading a chapter of scripture and prayer we distributed the presents, before a houseful of people many of whom were children. May the cause of Christ increase with such rapidity that the lost may all be found and inherit eternal life.

J. F. KOONTZ.

Montevideo.

Lanark, Ill.

Jan. 3.—At our regular services last night, one united with the church at Bethlehem. We now have a minister (J. W. Beer) stationed at Lanark, one (myself) at Bethlehem, 8 miles south of Lanark, and one (John M. Deitz) about 10 miles south of Bethlehem, in Whiteside Co. Bro. Deitz was called to the ministry by the Bethlehem church last fall, and he has hopes of building up a congregation in his immediate neighborhood.

Z. T. LIVENGOOD.

A Surprise.

On last Sabbath morning, going into our stand for the regular services, we were very pleasantly surprised to find the old, hard seated, unsightly chairs removed, and in their place, a trio of fancy, spring bottomed ones, at a cost of about fifty dollars. All praise to sister Susanna Cabaugh, who makes the very liberal present.

A. J. STERLING.

Johnstown, Pa., Jan. 3rd.

From South Bend, Ind.

According to announcement, the South Bend City Brethren church was dedicated to the service of the Lord on Sunday, Dec. 19th, '86. Bro. Bashor was greeted with a full house. His pulpit work is too well known to need any comment. Bro. H. R. Holsinger, our pastor for 1887 was with us, and other ministers and lay members from neighboring churches cheered and encouraged us with their presence.

After the dedicatory sermon, brother Holsinger read to the congregation, the legal document deeding the property to the Trustees of this church and their successors forever. Said document was so framed and worded as to preclude the necessity of a law suit concerning the property, should there ever occur an unfortunate division in the church (God forbid). I should like to give to your readers the exact wording of this section of the deed, but not having it at hand, I cannot do it. I suggest that Bro. Holsinger make it public through the B. E. for the benefit of those brethren contemplating building churches.

We continued our meetings twelve days with good congregations, although the weather was very cold, with frequent snow storms. The interest grew to the last. We should have continued longer, but Bro. Bashor was called home to resume his pastoral work at Waterloo, Iowa. He gave us a promise to come again

and labor longer with us. Bro. J. A. Ridenour came among us at the close and preached for us the next night. The immediate result of our initiatory meetings in this city, is four by baptism, one more applicant, two by relation, one by commendation and six by letter, fourteen in all.

Bro. Holsinger left us a few days after dedication, and went East to bring his family. He and sister H. arrived the last day of 1886, and are now located at 706 South Carroll St. Bro. H. preached his introductory sermon as pastor of this church on Sunday morning, Jan. 2nd. We trust his labors with us will prove both pleasant and profitable to all, and that our united efforts will by God's help bring souls from darkness to light. We are weak in numbers and in purse, but strong in hope and faith. We organized a Sunday school on the 2nd, by electing brother Holsinger Superintendent.

In conclusion, let me suggest a vote of thanks from the entire brotherhood to Bro. D. C. Ullery for his Christian liberality in providing us with such a comfortable and convenient church home. God bless him.

J. C. EWING.

Hudson, Iowa.

Brother R. F. Mallott preached his farwell discourse at Hudson, Iowa, yesterday, Dec. 26th, 1886, upon the subject of "So great Salvation," Heb. 2: 3. The day was very cold, but notwithstanding this, there was a fair congregation. What the people of Hudson and vicinity, think of brother Mallott—as a man, an excellent fellow, as a preacher, respected, loved and revered by all who hear him. The members of the church also speak in the highest terms of Bro. Mallott as a man and a minister of the gospel of Jesus Christ. He is truly doing the work of an evangelist and making full proof of his ministry. What I think of him—I believe he has received a ministerial call, a right which he has received to preach the gospel. This call is two fold, divine and ecclesiastical, and I believe he is in possession of all the elements essential to a divine call, a holy life. An ardent desire and zeal to do good, aptness to teach, courage, etc.

He is a good sermonizer. His sermons are not mere declamations. No, when brother Mallott enters the pulpit, he feels the dignity and sanctity of the place, and the importance of the subject. He exerts the utmost powers of his voice to procure a pronunciation that is perfectly distinct and harmonious. He is a good logician. I had not the privilege of visiting with brother Mallott while here, as it would have been pleasant to have done. A part of the time I was holding meetings at other places. Though Bro. Mallott has returned to his fields of labor, yet he has not gone alone. Our best wishes and prayers have gone with him. I pray God our Father, in the blessed name of the Master, not to take Bro. Mallott, so young and useful, out of the world, but keep him from the evil.

JOHN NICHOLSON.

Oakland, Pa.

Bro. J. B. Wampler came among us on the evening of Dec. 18th, and preached telling ser-

mons. As a result, one was reclaimed, one by relation and there were two applicants for baptism. The members are much encouraged, and quite a number counting the cost, saying we will come soon. To God be all the glory.

D. J. HETRIC.

Jan. 4, '87.

The Oakville Revival.

We closed our meeting at Oakville this morning with a lively prayer meeting. This was the first visit we made to the brethren since the organization and revival in September. All who stepped aboard the old gospel ship last fall are there yet, and are alive and hopeful. Bro. David Teeter preaches for them twice a month, and they hold prayer meeting on Thursday evening of each week. The frame work of the church is up, it stands on an elevated lot in about the center of the village, and presents a beautiful appearance to the village and surrounding country. Its dimensions are, 36x54, 16 feet story, self-supporting roof, between third and half pitch, and will be 59 feet from foundation to top of spire. The bell came on the evening train of the 23rd ult., and on the morning of the 24th, it poured out its deep tones over the village and was heard four miles in the distance. This was the first time that a church bell was ever heard in Oakville, a railroad village of 100 inhabitants. The brethren organized a Sabbath school last Sunday. Brother J. T. Holsinger was elected Superintendent, David Teeter assistant, sister Sally Dearman secretary and Mollie Metzker assistant, and brother John Johnson chorister. Brother Johnson is a young man of promise, a school and music teacher, and was baptized into the Redeemer's death with 3 others, (one lady) when the mercury indicated 22 degrees below zero.

The immediate result of the present meeting was 14 additions. Several others virtually said they would come before long.

Brother Elias Teeter, of Pleasant Hill, Ohio, was here visiting friends and attended some of the meetings and preached some for us.

The Brethren church which was organized on the 10th, day of last September, in the ware house in Oakville, Ind., with 7 members, now has a church house under good headway, has preaching regularly, has a live prayer meeting in which all participate, has a Sunday school organized, and has 74 members with bright prospects for a number more ere very long. With the talent the brethren have they certainly can build up a strong church if they continue in the work with as much energy as they have so far. They have several school teachers among them, then there are a number of the younger members who are good scholars. Then there too, is old Squire Hale who has been a Methodist exhorter and is full of methodist zeal yet, and with the experience he has had both as a minister and magistrate, makes a strong spoke in the wheel. Oakville is nearly a Brethren town now, and they seem to have the good will of the rest of the citizens of the village and surrounding neighborhood who belong to other churches, they attend their pray-

er meetings and worship with them, and some even say they feel more at home among them than they do any where else. May God help them to be faithful.

At our last regular appointment at Bunker Hill 1 came out for baptism and brother John M. Fox was ordained.

J. H. SWIHART.

Rossville, Ind., Jan. 4th, 1887.

The Past Year.

What a fearful tale the year just passed has told! Look how many great men have passed from life to death in the last twelve or more months: Grant, Hendricks, Hancock, Seymour, McClellan, Tilden, Vanderbilt, Arthur, Logan, and others. These men were all great, and their names are great still, but with all their greatness, who would take their places today? Not the humblest being of a rational mind. Who would exchange life for their cold, dead, decaying bodies? Not one. Then true greatness does not consist of fame only in this life. The humblest man's body is as beautiful—if beautiful it may be called—after death as that of the most exalted. In death all our bodies are alike—all disrobed of worldly splendor. Then true greatness consists of not only living on earth, but living also in heaven; for who would exchange places with the most noted man this world ever knew, if such a one were in hell fire?

However, the past year has been one of rejoicing in our church, in the number of souls brought to Christ. We do not appreciate the work done as we should. We are not thankful enough for it; but the day is coming, in my opinion, when we, or others, will look back at the work done in the last two years in the Brethren church, and we or they, will be amazed at the enormity of it. Our gifted ministers are not encouraged enough, and we ought to be very thankful to God for the wonderful work wrought through them. We too, have been blest bountifully with this world's goods in the past year. Although some may be poor and others may be afflicted, and others may have lost much of this world's goods, and others may have lost friends, and with some, perhaps all of these seemingly misfortunes may have come, but they are only transient, they will be restored to the true believer, a hundred-fold in the world to come, by obtaining eternal life.

If many of us had no misfortunes at all, we, I fear, would murmur against God when our time come to leave this world. Or if God's people here on earth had every thing beautiful and no misfortunes and the worldly or ungodly man only unfortunate then many, perhaps, would be selfishly good to obtain this bounty and goodness, not caring to truly worship God. Let us then be thankful and good to God for: "Another year has told its fearful tale, And still I'm here a traveler in this vale. Why am I spared to see another year? Why have I shared so many mercies here?"

G. A. COPP.

Fishers Hill, Va.

The Annual.

The Brethren Annual is distinctly a church document this year. It contains 40 pages, and will be mailed to any address at the following prices:

Single Copy	10c.
Six Copies	50c.
Twelve Copies	\$1.00